

## The Christian Church and Social Government

By REV. JAMES M. GRAY, D.D.  
Dean of Moody Bible Institute  
of Chicago

TEXT: "Render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's; Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself."—Matthew 22:21 and 23.



These words of our Lord Jesus Christ suggest a sermon on the relation of the Christian church to civil government. But first, what is the Christian church? It is an elect body gathered out of all nations, in whom a supernatural work has been redeemed and sanctified through faith in the atonement of

Christ, and as members of his spiritual body, are separated in an essential sense from the world. They are waiting for his re-appearing, and expect to be glorified and reign with him over the millennial earth.

There is a point of view therefore, in which such a people have nothing to do with civil government because such government is a part of the system of ungodliness represented by Satan whom the Scriptures call the god of this world. His dominion is to be destroyed when Christ comes to set up his kingdom in its place. True Christians, therefore, are not expecting the millennium to be brought about by moral or political reforms, but are waiting for his coming to introduce and make it a possibility.

What Caesar Represents.

But while this is true, such Christians believe that they have obligations to the government under which they live, privileges to be enjoyed and a stewardship for which they must give account of God. Paul claimed protection because of his Roman citizenship, but no man has a moral right to ask protection from a government to which he is indifferent, and for which he will not use his influence to make it the best possible. "Caesar" represented the civil government of Christ's day, and the things to be rendered unto him were the taxes imposed by the Roman Empire.

But the "Caesar" of the United States to whom we are to pay tribute is not an individual or an empire, but in an important sense it is ourselves. If this is a "government of the people, for the people and by the people," we are our own Caesar, and to ourselves we render tribute. According to Christ's command therefore, we are to support this government in accordance with the laws it has made.

And yet more is implied, for we are not only "Caesar" to whom tribute must be paid, but "Caesar" who pays the tribute. For what do we demand this tribute therefore? How much of the taxes levied by us on our fellow-men goes into the pockets of those to whom it does not belong, because we are indulging our own convenience and letting things alone? How much of it supports our constabulary and law courts, our almshouses and jails whose existence is because of iniquitous legislation affording license to sin? Are we satisfied that in these things we can give account of our stewardship with joy? How much attention, as Christians, have we given to these things? How much do we know, and how much have we prayed about them?

Party or Purity, Which?

This brings us to our second obligation.

Heirs of Peace and Joy.

Peace and joy may be and ought to be our unbroken experience. For the only thing that can cause a break in our peace or joy is our coming into direct conflict with God. And Jesus Christ offers to do away with all such conflict for us. He completely and continuously reconciles us to God if we will let him. Our God is a God of peace and joy. His own peace is never broken. His own joy is never quenched. He does not ask us to wait for life in the next world before sharing the very experiences of his own present life. Only our refusal to do this, by distrusting him, or rebelling against his will, can defraud us of this conscious experience of union with the life of God. And Christ is always at hand to enable us ever to refrain from all such distrust and disobedience.

Choose Ye This Day.

Two ways lie before us. Each one chooses for himself which way he will take, the way of the world or the way of faith. The way of the world

Maimed History.

"Quebec is taking its place as a summer resort for American tourists," Charles M. Schwab said the other day.

"Some of our tourists show in Quebec a remarkable ignorance of history; but, then, the natives in a tourist's presence show a remarkable ignorance of history, too."

"I overheard one morning a dialogue between a native and a tourist before the Wolfe monument.

gation in relation to civil government. "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." Of course, this means that we shall try to save our neighbor and bring him with us on the way to heaven. But it means also that we can not be indifferent to the earthly difficulties of the way. In other words, we must not permit Satan to flout his temptations in the way without an effort to destroy them. There are dram shops, brothels and gambling dens open for the amusement of our young men and women. If our newspapers are to be believed, law is defied by municipal and state officers to the demoralization of both public and private standards of right and wrong. Who are responsible for these things? Will not God hold those professing Christians to account who, for the sake of party fealty on the one hand, or lack of public duty on the other, have failed to overthrow them.

The New Testament says scarcely anything about the relation of the Christian church to civil government because in the time of Christ and his apostles there was no civil government in the sense in which we conceive of it. But the duty of the individual Christian is included nevertheless in the second commandment of the law, "Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself," for "love worketh no evil to his neighbor," either by omission or commission. While every Christian must decide these matters for himself in the light of the principles laid down in the Bible and referred to in the text, yet it would seem that certain things are clear. First, alien Christians in this country should be naturalized in order to be at liberty to vote. Secondly, every citizen possessing this privilege should exercise it as a solemn obligation before God. Thirdly, he should keep himself informed on the great questions for decision in municipal, state, national and international affairs. And finally, he should exert his influence in every way open to him to awaken a revival of civic righteousness, that will put honest men into public office, close the dramshops, exterminate the gambling halls, put an end to the white slave traffic, sanctify one day in seven as a day of rest, and make in every way for the betterment of the whole people, but especially multiply opportunities for reaching them with the word of God, which alone is able to save their souls.

Jesus told a story about a man who was stripped, robbed, wounded, and given up for dead on the Jericho road. There are many such roads today. The poor wage-earner, the slave to strong drink, the negro chased by the lyncher is on the Jericho road. Shall we play the priest and the Levite and pass by on the other side? There are plenty of good excuses for doing so. Or shall we not

the part of the good Samaritan, and give our time and thought and help and money for their relief? Which is the Christian part in a civil government?

Carve Your Stone Well.

You cannot set the world right, or the times, but you can do something for the truth! and all you can do will certainly tell if the work you do is for the Master, who gives you his share, and so the burden of responsibility is lifted off. This assurance makes peace, satisfaction and repose possible even in the partial work done upon earth. Go to the man who is carving a stone for a building; ask him where is that stone going, to what part of the temple, and how is he going to get it into place, and what does he do? He points you to the builder's plans. This is only one stone of many. So, when men shall ask where and how is your little achievement going into God's plan, point them to your Master, who keeps the plans, and then go on doing your little service as faithfully as if the whole temple were yours to build. —Phillips Brooks.

There can be no high civility without deep morality.—Emerson.

is the way of selfishness, and ends in disaster. The way of the righteous seeks the well-being of others, and the end thereof is life eternal. "Everybody for himself," is the cry of the world. Everybody for somebody else is the passion of the real followers of the Man of Galilee. "Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others." "He that findeth his life shall lose it; and he that loseth his life for my sake, shall find it. And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold water only, in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward." These words of holy writ point the way to Divine reward. The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life. Here and now we are making choice of which we shall have.

Enjoy the blessings of this day if God sends them, and the evils bear patiently and sweetly. For this day only is yours, we are dead to tomorrow, and we are not born to tomorrow.—Jeremy Taylor.

"What's this here?" the tourist said.

"That," said the native, "is where a great hero fell."

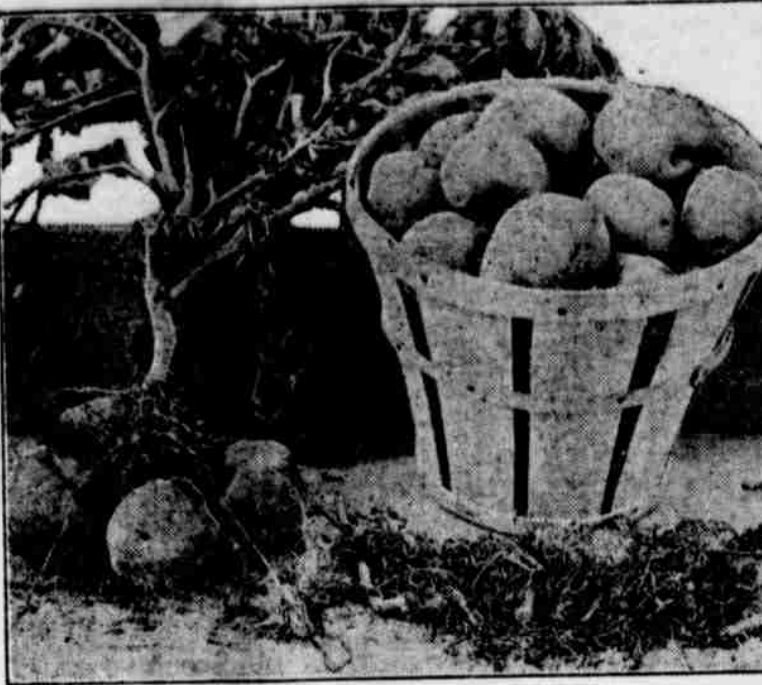
"Fell, eh?" said the tourist. "Did it hurt him?"

"Hurt him?" said the native, with a disgusted look. "Why, it killed him!"

Has Various Messengers.

Good fortune often chooses the most unlikely of messengers to herald its coming.

## SCHOOL TEACHER SUCCESSFUL ON FARM



"Quick Lunch" Potatoes.

(By JEANETTE PIERSON.)

When I changed my vocation from school-teaching to farming six years ago, some of my acquaintances predicted a lamentable failure.

"A city woman can't run a farm," they said. This declaration was made with varying degrees of bluntness, and everybody was so certain on the subject that I might have been turned aside from my purpose, but for the facts that the farm had been bought and my aged parents earnestly desired to spend their declining years in the country.

"Is all this talk about intensive farming and diversification mere theory and speculation?" I asked over and over. "If so, I may not succeed," I told my friends, "for I am not going to run my farm in the old way. To depend wholly on a single crop or on a big dairy would mean ruin to me, as it has to thousands of others."

"If bees pay, if poultry is actually profitable, if there are large returns from raising hogs, if there is good money in fruit and garden truck, then a woman can run a farm just as well as a man can."

I was fortified in this view by some things which came under my observation while I was looking for a farm. One man who was devoting his energy to a large dairy made a failure owing to a summer drought, and would have been turned off the farm but for the fact that his wife and two children had cultivated an acre of cucumbers. This pickle product actually paid six dollars for the season.

Another tenant in the neighborhood who devoted himself to a single interest, was turned out-of-doors because the market for his particular product was unusually low that season, and his receipts were not equal to his expenses.

I had seen a little of farming and had studied much. It seemed clear to my mind that the money was to be made in a variety of little things rather than in the production of a large single crop.

I had money enough to make a substantial payment on a farm of forty acres, which was equipped with a good dwelling, two small barns, a poultry house and a well. I am in proximity to several small towns where there is a constant market for produce.

Six years ago land was not over 75 per cent. of its present value in this district and I could easily sell my farm for \$1,000 more than I paid for it.

I took possession the first of April. My plan in brief was to start lines of production which would give me a monthly or weekly income all the year through. With this in view I purchased twelve colonies of bees, fifty Plymouth Rock chickens, six young pigs, eight cows, a span of mares and a variety of utensils.

Fodder had to be bought to keep the stock for several weeks. I hired a man at \$25 per month and board. The proceeds of the dairy, averaging about \$50 per month, were ample to pay his wages and meet the entire household expenses.

During the first two months I sold sixty dozen of eggs and set twenty hens. Although the incidental expenses in starting were heavy I held even, and at the end of three months I could show a neat little balance in my favor.

The dairy had improved so that it was returning \$70 a month. From July on I had vegetables to sell and nearly every day there was something to send to a customer when the milk was delivered in town.

I had a hard fight with vermin in the poultry house that spring and summer. It was found advisable to move the building to a higher piece of ground.

Then we fixed up a large dust-heap in the yard and white-washed everything in the form of lumber, beside using insect powder liberally. By the time the battle was won, the henhouse being entirely free from vermin; and there has been no trouble of that kind for five years.

A dust heap outside and whitewash or insect powder inside will save poultry from vermin, although there must be constant watchfulness.

the principle. Were I desirous of making the poultry end of the enterprise the most important, I would put in incubators. I have raised as high as 400 broilers in a season, the production of 50 hens.

With this number in addition to the eggs and some old poultry, that branch of the business paid over \$30 a month for the whole year, but usually it brings in rather less. Poultry hatched in April will begin to lay in December or January.

Young hens are the most profitable kind. I seldom keep them beyond two years. I raise a little wheat especially for the poultry and they also get some corn, meat, ground bones, etc.

By July 1 the bees were making honey and swarming at a great rate. The twelve colonies increased to thirty and I was able to sell 1,200 pounds of honey that year. Much of this went to private customers at 15 to 20 cents a pound.

I sold some of the choicest comb honey to hotels at 14 to 18c. This season I sold 15 colonies of bees for \$60 in addition to \$180 received for honey.

This branch of business requires intelligent care, but it is worth while. Bees must have a snug, dry, well-ventilated place through the winter, and they must be guarded against what is known as foul brood. When I have a weak or unsatisfactory colony I change the queen and give them clean new quarters.

It is a good plan to change all hives once a year, preferably in the spring. All hives should be cleaned and fumigated. On has yielded less than \$200 in my apiary, and the amount has reached \$300 twice. This is practically clear profit.

Since the second year on the farm, I have netted \$250 to \$500 from hogs annually. These animals grow into money fast, and do not require as much attention as either chickens or cattle. Pigs should have a good pasture lot and a patch of roots with clean water and shade.

I have found rape, artichokes, and carrots valuable crops for hogs. The artichoke is particularly hardy and prolific, providing an early feed fodder. Later in the season a field of peas is a good thing, just before the finishing up with corn.

I have raised many hogs to 250 and 300 pounds at ten months of age, at a cost of less than \$5. I have seen a good deal of hog cholera and other diseases, but not on my own place. I provide clean pens and change them often, and I also change pastures from year to year.

The little farm takes vigilance but it is not hard work. After these few years of experience I claim that a woman can succeed practically as well as a man on a farm.

A point which I have gained over the old-fashioned farmer is the cash income every week in the year. I not only secure this by diversity of interests but I save myself from possible failure. The farmer who trusts to one big crop or to a large dairy is sure to have disastrous years.

When the place is conducted so that there is a regular income from a variety of little things, it only takes ordinary sense and industry to give success to a man or a woman.

(Copyright, 1918.)

## LITTLE TROUBLE TO GROW HERBS

Not Used as Extensively for Medicinal Purposes as Formerly—Sage Desirable.

The herb in the garden seems to have gone out of fashion, as it is seldom found in the modern garden. Herbs are not much used for medicinal purposes any more, at least not in the way that people used to use them. Those who use them for seasoning probably prefer to buy what they need rather than to go to the trouble of raising them. It is little trouble to grow them, however.

Good, rich soil is required, and then all the weeds should be kept out of the herb bed. The beds need a covering of straw leaves in the fall for winter protection. Sage is a very desirable herb for any garden, as the powdered leaves are excellent for seasoning many articles of food. Sage leaves should be cut three or four times during the season, dried and placed in covered jars or cans.

## Corner for the Juniors

### ROPE TRICK IS "EXPLAINED"

English Writer Makes Explanation of Cunning Artifice—Does Not Appear Conclusive.

The Indian rope trick, which no one who has seen it performed has ever satisfactorily explained, is "explained" by J. N. Maskelyne, an English writer.

Mr. Maskelyne dismisses the trick as follows: Indian conditions of atmosphere are necessary to the success of the trick. The spectators face the setting sun and are sheltered from it by an awning. The rope used is evidently a jointed bamboo with the joints made to lock. Up this "rope" or "pole" a boy climbs to a height of about 30 feet or so, till out of sight of the people. Then he "disappears" as though into space.

What really happens, Mr. Maskelyne explains, is that the spectators are blinded by the setting sun and that the boy climbs up the pole or rope and then drops quickly to the ground. Before the astonished onlookers know anything about it he is covered up with a sheet.

This is the most ingenious attempt at an explanation of the trick yet made, but it will not appear conclusive to all who have witnessed the performance. The trick has been witnessed at Khandallah—a hill station near Bombay—and again at Delhi at midday, without any awning being used or any effects but the rope.

## EDUCATION NOT ALL MENTAL

Man Who Could Not Swim Is Refused Diploma by Authorities at the Columbia University.

The authorities at Columbia university have refused to award a diploma to a senior who has not learned to swim the length of the pool in the gymnasium. A few years ago such action would have been deemed absurd. There are those who are unable to swim the length of a gymnasium pool and a student's qualifications for a degree of bachelor of arts, says the St. Paul Pioneer Press. They are the people who believe that the only benefit to be derived from attendance at college is obtained from books. The requirements imposed at Columbia is an indication of the more practical turn that is being given to educational effort in recent times.

While most boys learn to swim without the aid of college or even common school instruction, there are few who are able to do so. In a university of more practical value. Every one not physically disqualified should be moderately proficient in the art of keeping afloat in the water. It is a simple thing, easily learned and should be part of the education of even grade school children. Columbia is setting a good example in withholding a diploma from a man who cannot swim.

## HORSE FROM BROOM HANDLE

Simple Toy Is Quite Easily Made and Gives Wonderful Satisfaction to Little People.

This is a simple toy easily made which gives wonderful satisfaction to all little folk. Get a broom handle and cut it to the proper length, then procure an old sock either black or brown; cut a slit in the top two or three inches long for the mouth of the horse. Line the sock with cardboard; make holes above the mouth for nostrils, which should be lined with a piece of red flannel, and add



Toy Horse.

a small portion to serve as the tongue, which should slightly protrude. Stuff the head with rags or any similar material, and tie it on to the top of the broomstick. Fix two ears, which should be made stiff with card; add the eyes, which may be two buttons sewn on in the proper position; adjust the bridle and ornament where necessary. When finished it will appear as in the illustration.

Strong.

"Father," said little Herbert, "why doesn't mother travel with the circus?"

"What could she do in a circus?" "She might be the strong woman. I heard her tellin' grandma this morning that she could wind you around her little finger."—Judge.

During the Crowded Season.

Mrs. Gotham—Why, Tommie, how dirty your face is! Where have you been?

Tommie Gotham—Oh, I've been swimming down at the public bath, mamma!

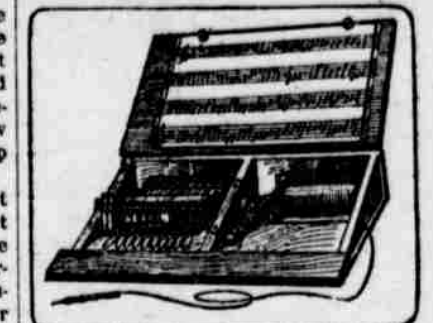
## MUSIC READING MADE EASY

Children Find It an Attractive Task to Learn Their Notes by Use of Electrical Device.

By using the electric music teacher, children will find that it is an attractive task to learn their notes, instead of a dry lesson as heretofore, so that they will begin to take an interest in music at once, and not consider it a drudgery, says the Popular Electricity.

M. Pierre Gellis, a Paris inventor, makes the device which we illustrate here. It is based on the principle of using an electric contact plate under the music paper. By pricking each note with a sharp metal point, we make contact for an electric device carrying a hammer, so that the hammer strikes a string or preferably a metal piece to give out the sound. Thus each note or line or space gives out its corresponding sound, and it is an easy matter to read a simple piece of music in this way.

The device is quite an elaborate one for it is required to take care of the sharps and flats which figure per-



Electric Music Teacher.

manently as the sign of the staff. But this is easily done by using a revolving contact device to elicit over the several required notes at the start. To bring back to natural during the piece, we press on a button which restores the note for the moment.

Even professional musicians will find it useful for transposing a piece into another key and this is done by observing the movement of the hammers and also a transposing chart which lies before them.

## SWAP CHILDREN IN DENMARK

Curious System of Exchanging Little Folk During Summer Months—Scheme Works Well.

In Denmark there is a curious system of exchanging children during the summer. The country people send their little ones to the city people, and the latter send theirs to the country. The state delivers free tickets, and the schools send the children according to the application "as from family."

The children, wearing a special badge, are pinned on the jacket or bodice of any of them go, say they are at the first station whilst inquiries are made. The young travelers are met at their destination by the peasants and their wives.

Treated with affectionate care by these good hearted people, the children often enjoy privileges they have never known at home. There is no severe discipline nor irksome restraint. They return home full of tales about their adventures, and their mothers are delighted to find them looking rosy cheeked, fat, and healthy. The peasant women feed them well and often make them fresh clothing.

The latter send their children into the towns and volunteer guides show them the monuments and sights. Last year the principal restaurant keepers at Copenhagen gave them a series of feasts and organized little dancing parties for their amusement. Both categories of children benefit by this mode of exchange, which, it may be noted, is conducted on inexpensive lines.

## RIDDLES.

What is the difference between a tunnel and an ear trumpet?

One is hollowed out and the other is hollowed in.

Why didn't the last dove return to the ark?

Because she had sufficient ground for remaining.

When is an author like spirit?

When he's at proof.

Why are authors who treat of physiognomy like soldiers?

Because they write about face.

What is the difference between the czar and a beggar?

One issues manifestoes; the other manifests toes without 'is shoes.

Why is a child with a cold in its head like a winter night?

Because it blows, it snows (its nose).

What's the most difficult thing to be cooked for a Christmas dinner?

A tailor's goose.

Why are poets like children's toys?

Because they are given to a muse and indulge in fancy (infancy).

Why is an absconding bank cashier like an air gun?

Because he goes off loaded and makes no report.

When is a window like a star?

When it is a skylight.

What part of their infant tuition have old bachelors and old maids most profited by?

Learning to go alone.